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BRAIN CELL ~ 411

SEXUAL FREEDOM LEAGUE

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CHRISTIAN ARNHEITER
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DAVID B.GREENBERGER
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JEROEN TER WELW
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SERMENGHI SANDRO
RUGGERO MAGGI
COFIAS 88
GIOVANNI STRADA

DE VELINX
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MICHELINE VAN DEN BROECK

PAUL HARTAL
PIG PRODUCTIONS
MAIL ART La Toanvinh

ANDRE ROBER
I.BUNUS

ZDENEK SIMA
PETR MICKA

ANTONIO GOMES
JOSEF LINSCHINGER

KIMMO FRAMELIUS

SULTANATE OF OCCUSSI-AMBENO

D.ZINOVJEV

RYOSUKE COHEN

BOX 33681 PHOENIX AZ.85067-3681 USA
3235¹/₂ FAIRVIEW E SEATTLE WA.98102 USA
7300 PIRATES COVE 2048 LAS VEGAS NV.89128 USA
5136 LYNDALE AV.SO.MINNEAPOLIS MN.55419 USA
BOX 20081 SEDONA AZ.86341-0081 USA
137 LELAND AVE.COLUMBUS OH.43214 USA
30 S.FOURTH ST.MADISON WI.53704 USA
616 BRANARD HOUSTON TX.77006 USA
16 EAST 78TH ST.NY NY.10021 USA
BOX 1230 SARATOGA SPRINGS NY.12866 USA
BOX 31226 RALEIGH NC.27622 USA
1913 ELLIS STR.SAN FRANCISCO CA.94115 USA
BOX 410837 S.F.,CA.94141 USA
BOX 155 PRESTON PARK PA.18455 USA
BOX 1253 BRATTLEBORO VT.05302 USA
1805 DELAWARE ST.BERKELEY CA.94703 USA
2836 ALPINE RD.N.E.ATLANTA GA.30305 USA
4907 DENSMORE AVE.N SEATTLE WA.98103-6754 USA

BOX 1206 26182 EDEWECHT GERMANY
MUGGENKAMPSTR I 20257 HAMBURG GERMANY
NEUSTRBE 2 53925 SISTIG EIFEL GERMANY
FRIEDHOFSTRABE 15 99444 BLANKENHEIN GERMANY
HAUPTSTR 93 53424 REMAGEN-OBERWINTER GERMANY

2 FERNGATE DR.MANCHESTER M20 4AH ENGLAND
71 LAMBETH WALK LONDON SE11 ENGLAND
BOX 2429 HORNSEY LONDON N8 8QD ENGLAND
54 SHARSTED ST.LONDON SE17 3TN ENGLAND
128 KINSTON RD.TEDDINGTON MIDDLESEX TW11 9JN ENGLAND

ERNST CASIMIRSTRAAT 8 9693 BE NIEUWESCHANS HOLLAND
D.C.MEESLAAN 21 3237 AJ VIERPOLDERS HOLLAND
BOENINLAAN 393 1102 TL AMSTERDAM HOLLAND
KIKKERVEEN 221 3205 XB SPYKENISSE HOLLAND
ILSSELDIJK 412 2922 BP KRIMPEN AAN DEN IJSSEL HOLLAND

VIA REGNOLI 3 T 6367381 40138 BOLOGNA ITALY
C.SO.SEMPIONE 67-20149 MILANO ITALY
VIA SICILIA 6 25033 COLOGNE (BS) ITALY
C.P.271 48100 RAVENNA ITALY

BOX 150 3700 TONGEREN BELGIUM
71 RUE D'HOFFSCHMIDT 6720 HABAY BELGIUM
STEENWEG OF BEERSE 9 2330 MERKSPLAS BELGIUM

BOX 1012 ST.LAURENT MONTREAL QUEBEC H4L 4W3 CANADA
70 COTTON DR.MISSISSAUGA ONTARIO L5G 1Z9 CANADA
4400 LINTON NO.6 MONTREAL QUEBEC H3S 1T6 CANADA

78 CHEMIN PELIER 97430 LE TAMPON ILE DE LA REUNION FRANCE
% SIMON & LOGNON, 12 RUE LEPIC 75018 PARIS FRANCE

RECINOV 101 NOVE STRASELI 27101 CZECHO REPUBLIC
PLYNARENSKA 3 40010 USTI N.L.CZECHO REPUBLIC

APT DO 186 06800 MERIDA (BADAJOZ) SPAIN
VIECHTAU 9 A-4801 TRAUNKIRCHEN AUSTRIA

PRINSESSANJIE 4H83 00820 HELSINKI FINLAND

BOX 876 AUCKLAND AOTEAROA NEW ZEALAND

RINUZV II-27 RIGA LV-1015 LATVIA

3-76-I-A-613 YAGUMOKITACHO MORIGUCHI-CITY OSAKA 570 JAPAN

MAIL ART - BRAIN CELL - FRACTAL

We have only inspiration. Every generation makes good art work if possible, and that's wonderful !, but not so easy. Every artist has the history of art past to recognize and understand which then inspires personal work. The human thing is to investigate poetic emotions, visual beauty and more concrete expression especially that which has not been before. That's what makes surprises.

Mail Art is always coming now from all over the world. Post card, Xerox copy, collage, drawing, photograph, computer graphics, cassette and so on. We send mail, fax, E-mail, internet etc.. Sometimes we don't know each other's faces or backgrounds but we have communication. We find surprise in many different expressions, concepts, stamps and seals. We find congruous participations with positive identifications of ideas and sympathies, not as in merely one-to-one's mail. Mail Art has expanded the network like sa from A to B, B to C, C to D, D to A, C to A, Somebody sends me Mail Art which becomes collage which I return. We use each other's ideas. Ideas are not always orderly, neat, or ruled like lines. More like the numberless complexity of a brain cell's energy. (An organic cell has more moving parts than any man-made machine.)

Picasso was influenced by Cezanne and African Sculpture. Van gogh by Hokusai and Hiroshige, Pollock by Dali and Miro. Already we have many artists who have been Mail Art-influenced. Today we all have each other's Mail Art or DADA or FLUXUS ideas in our art's history. I am really glad to use other people's ideas for my work. My mind and work and many other people's pieces mix and the Brain Cell paper make Fractals. Much more mix ! We can see here and there the art ideas of FLUXUS and Ray Johnson. Those are Brain Cells making each other's pieces. Mail Art's piece is Fractal.

I think that Mail Art has no need of place. The world is a studio. Everybody or anybody can participate. There is not much money that anybody can make in a Mail Art show. There are good reasons for it, but not that. The artist is not negative but like a cactus needle. Sharp ! We have free spirit, We can directly speak. Therefore, we can change the organized artworld which is a business world. We can make, sa Andre Malraux said, " The Museum Without Walls."

We don't have the Berlin Wall anymore but there are still many walled countries on Earth. Each country has its own cultures, religions, foods, habits, costumes and other differences. We can transcend the walls to know and to understand and to share each other's differences. This is not just for artists but for every body. This is now very important, maybe more important now than ever.

SEPT. 1977, RYOSUKE COHEN

1997

Translated by Mr.Postcards & Takayo (USA)